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of *Ulota phyllantha*, the first reported, collected by Thomas Howell, in Oregon, only to find them ruined by a fungus which had made the peristome imperfect.

On p. 103, Vol. 14 of the BRYOLOGIST, 1911, Mrs. Britton has published a list of mosses that have been reported with fungi on the capsules.

206 WINDSOR ROAD, WABAN, MASS.

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT REPORTS OF THE "MOSS EXCHANGE CLUB"

O. E. JENNINGS

Mr. P. G. M. Rhodes recently sent us a copy of the Twenty-first Annual Report of the Moss Exchange Club (British Isles) together with a page from the Twentieth Annual Report, noting in the accompanying letter that "they contain some interesting notes, chiefly by Mr. Dixon, on American plants. I thought that perhaps you might care to reproduce some of these in the BRYOLOGIST. You will see that Mr. Ingham and I have described a new variety to cover the plants formerly known as var. *subsphaerocarpon* [*Hypnum palustre* var. *subsphaerocarpon* B. & S.]. I have sent a co-type specimen of this to Mr. Kaiser for the S. M. S. Herbarium."

The above quotation is from a letter dated May 6, 1916, and as a bit of personal news, interesting to those of us who may be wondering how the war is affecting our brother bryological students of various nationality on the other side of the Atlantic, we know our friend will pardon us for quoting further from his letter: "I am now on an exemption till July 31 and have been rejected for field-service owing to eye-sight being defective; but I may then be required for garrison duty such as the Army Ordnance Corps. However it is more likely that I shall be kept where I am."

Mr. Rhodes has checked off, in the reports which he sent, the entries relating to American material. This material has been examined by various members of the Moss Exchange Club and their notes are signed with initials only, as follows: *C. H. B.*—Rev. C. H. Binstead; *C. A. C.*—Mr. C. A. Cheetham; *H. N. D.*—Mr. H. N. Dixon; *W. I.*—Mr. W. Ingham; *H. W. L.*—Rev. Canon H. W. Lett; *W. E. N.*—Mr. W. E. Nicholson; *P. G. M. R.*—Mr. P. G. M. Rhodes; *C. H. W.*—Rev. C. H. Waddell. The entries follow in order, as checked off:

Twentieth Annual Report (1915), p. 135—

"*Amblystegium orthocladon* P. Beauv., pierres dans cascade, Mt. St. Hilaire, Quebec, Canada, July /10, H. Dupret, *com.* P. G. M. R., *det.* Cardot.' Cardot est très affirmatif, mais Rénauld préférait l'appeler *A. irriguum*,' H. Dupret. 'I should incline to Rénauld's opinion, strongly, that this is *A. irriguum*, not *A. orthocladon* (which is but a form of *A. varium* according to most authors.) The stout nerve and the basal cells are to me conclusive. The entire margin is in favour of *orthocladon*, if anything, but this is the only character I can find on that side, and certainly I should say does not outweigh the other.' H. N. D. 'I have communicated Mr. Dixon's note to Prof. Dupret, who informs me that Dr. Best has provisionally named this plant var. *perplexum*, presumably of *A. irriguum*.' P. G. M. R.

"*Hypnum riparium* Lindb., var. *elongatum* B. & S., stones in pool, Montreal, Canada, June /14, H. Dupret, *com.* P. G. M. R. 'I should think the var. *elongatum* is correct, judging from the description. According to Paris this is identical with the var. *splendens;* but the present plant does not seem quite such a fine form, though no doubt near it.' H. N. D."

Twenty-first Annual Report (1916) p. 161—

"*Fontinalis antipyretica* L. var. *gigantea* Sull., Magilligan sand dunes (I. 40), May /04, C. H. W. & H. W. L. 'I have compared this plant with Sullivant's var. *gigantea* from North America, and it does not agree with it. The true var. *gigantea* has the leaves *curved on the keel,*and the leaves are not nearly so large and wide as in the Irish plant. I should name the present plant var. *robusta* Cardot, distinguished by its very large and very wide leaves when flattened out.' W. I. 'This appears to me good var. I have not seen the curved back of leaf given as a character of the var., and specimens I have from North America, *det.* Cardot and others, do not show this feature. It appears to me quite as good as the North American plant distributed in 1911. On my specimen of the 'Forma *robusta* Cardot' from Minnesota, I have noted 'it is not very easy to see why this should not be var. *gigantea.*' It also has the leaves markedly curved on the back.' H. N. D.; var. *gracilis* Schp., Trossachs, Perth, July 1898, C. H. W.; and Malham Cove (64), Jan. /12, C. A. A. 'This is an interesting plant. I should name it var. *laxa* Milde. The habit with its spaced leaves makes it distinct from the ordinary var. *gracilis.*' W. I. 'This is not var. *gracilis,* nor should I call it var. *laxa* Milde, though Malham Cove is a locus classicus for that var. This may quite possibly be the same plant in another form; but if so, it throws a strong light on certain species which are clearly derivatives of *F. antipyretica, F. gothica, F. Camusi,* and *F. arvernica.* This plant with its narrow, flaccid, scarcely keeled leaves, and appearance of *F. hypnoides,* is very different from the var. *laxa* I have gathered at Malham Cove, with rigid, distant, spreading, keeled leaves. I can scarcely find any difference between the present plant and *F. arvernica* Ren.; but these forms are too critical to be decided upon by anyone but an expert. I should suggest withdrawing it for this year, and obtaining Mons. Cardot's opinion on it, if possible in rather better condition; this is poor both in condition and in preparation.' H. N. D."

Twenty-first Annual Report (1916) pp. 146–165—

"*Plagiothecium Roeseanum* (Hampe.) Schp., crevasses des rochers, Westmount, Montreal, Mar. /08; base des arbres dans marécages, Montreal, Sept. /11; and *c. propagulis* rochers terreux, Ile St. Paul, Montreal, Sept. /12, H. Dupret, *com.* P. G. M. R. 'The plants differ a good deal from a plant which I have gathered in Lapland, and also from a specimen of Schimper's herbarium, but it more closely resembles a plant which I have had from Mönkemeyer under the name of *P. Roeseanum* var. *gracile. P. Roeseanum* is not a satisfactory plant at the best of times.' W. E. N. 'None of your three mosses have as wide and loose cells as the two specimens I have. *P. Roeseanum* is a synonym of *P. Sullivantiae* Schp. H. N. D. says in Handbook, "Nerve long and rather strong, cells narrower." Dr. Braithwaite in Br. Moss Flora says, "with very short nerve and laxer cells." How can we settle the question?' W. I. 'I have examined the Canadian *Plagiothecia,* and I think without doubt none of them belong to *P. Roeseanum.* That is rather a well-marked plant, in its best forms at any rate, with rather turgid cells, concave, not conspicuously complanate leaves, having narrower cells,—there is no doubt about its having narrower cells than *silvaticum* and most *denticulatum,* though the books do differ. M. Dupret's plants, that of 7/9/11 and 9/9/12 are identical forms, and I should refer them to *P. denticulatum, f. propagulifera.* They are not quite identical with the *f. propagulifera* Ruthe, described and figured by Limpricht, which is a rather larger plant and has the leaf-margins reflexed, but in the propagula they are identical. The other one 30/3/08, I should also refer to *P. denticulatum*, but as var. *laetum*, so far as can be told from the vegetative characters only.' H. N. D."

Twenty-first Annual Report (1916) pp. 167–168—

"*Hypnum palustre* Huds. vars., boulders in Tyne, Chollerford (67), July /05; R. Tees, Widdy Bank (66), Aug. /96, stones in Wharfe, Ilkley (64), July /96, *leg.* H. N. D. 'I asked Mr. Dixon if he could throw any light on the difficult var. *subsphaerocarpon*, and he kindly sent the above specimens and the following very interesting notes. It will, however, be observed that the effect is to make the existing British records of var. *subsphaericarpon* highly doubtful and exceedingly difficult to verify. The most useful course for practical purposes has seemed to be that suggested by Mr. Dixon in his article on the Chollerford plant, and a description by Mr. Ingham of a new var. *dolichoneuron*, based on vegetative characters, will be found in an appendix, and Mr. Dixon has kindly consented to the Chollerford gathering, distributed this year, being taken as the type specimens of the new variety. Most, if not all, of the existing records for *subsphaericarpon* can be referred to the new variety.' P. G. M. R.

"'I doubt this being a common var.; I have scarcely seen a British specimen which I should refer to it with certainty. There is a very frequent var. which has the leaves of the var. *subsphaericarpon* and is often sterile, and this I believe is what usually passes for it. But whenever I have found it fruiting the capsules are elongate and cannot be brought under the var." H. N. D. Extract from "Mosses of Northumberland," Berwickshire Naturalists' Club Proc. 1905; on Chollerford plant above. 'A striking form, which I have gathered on boulders partly submerged in several of our rivers in subalpine districts, having a robust habit, large falcate leaves, and especially characterized by the very stout single nerve, reaching well above two-thirds of the leaf. These are the characters of var. *subsphaericarpon* B. & S. (except that the long single nerve in that var. is not described as unusually stout), and I have received sterile plants so named, evidently on the strength of the vegetative characters. I have, however, gathered this plant in the R. Wharfe and elsewhere, bearing capsules of the typical form, and this is the case with the Chollerford plant . . . It is quite clear therefore that these vegetative characters are not always correlated with the type of capsule of var. *subsphaericarpon*, and there is some argument for giving our plant a new varietal name. On the other hand I have gathered a plant in Teesdale (see note below), and Mr. Binstead sends me a similar plant from Clifford, which with these leaf characters combine a shorter and wider capsule than that of the type, and which may be very fairly placed under the variety in question, although the capsule by no means equals the large turgid fruit I have gathered in mountain streams in the Pyrenees; they show an intermediate stage between the extreme Continental variety and the plant now under consideration . . . I have gathered a plant in Cumberland with both forms of capsule, long and narrow, and short and turgid, upon the same stem . . . It would seem that on the whole the variety would have been better established upon the vegetative characters alone, which would have comprised a fairly definite group of forms, including the plant on which these remarks are based . . . as well as the Continental plants with large swollen capsules, on which Schleicher based his *H. subsphaericarpon* . . . . It is a curious fact that in the four localities in England and Scotland in which I have gathered *G. apocarpa* var. *alpicola* . . . it has always been associated with the form or variety of *H. palustre* in question.' H. N. D.

"Mr. Dixon has now erased the words var. *subsphaericarpon* from the Teesdale specimens; the Clifford plant being annotated, 'not very marked var. in the fruit, but may pass.'"

Twenty-first Annual Report (1916) p. 176—

"*Hypnum palustre* Huds. var. *subsphaericarpon* B. & S. This var. of *H. palustre* has proved a stumbling block to students of British Mosses. No doubt many of the records in the Census Catalogue of British Mosses have been based upon barren specimens, viz., those whose leaves have a long strong single nerve. When such plants are in fruit, the capsules are far from being subsphaerical. In fact they are more like the capsules of the typical plant. The capsules of the var. from the High Pyrenees are short, widely oval and turgid, quite different from any of the capsules of the variety I know in the British Isles. Such being the case, it will be well to have a variety that will include the so-called records of var. *subsphaericarpon* of the British Isles. The long, strong single nerve is an important feature and is found with plants widely distributed in the British Isles. The variety suggested is as follows:

"*Hypnum palustre* Huds. var. *dolichoneuron* Ingh. & Rhodes, var. *nov.* Plants often dark green with elongated stems occasionally bright green, or brown, usually more robust. Leaf nerve *strong* and long, reacting the apex or vanishing just below it, always single.

"Capsules variable in length and variously inclined, oblong or oval-oblong. Occasionally the capsules are erect.

"*Hypnum palustre* Huds. var. *dolichoneuron* Ingh. & Rhodes. [vel sub *Hygrohypno.*] Plantulae saepe nigro-virides, nonnunquam laetevirentes aut fuscae, caulibus elongatis, plerumque robustiores. Folia costa unica et crassa et longa, ad apicem aut immediate subtus attingente. Thecae longitudine variae, et varie inclinatae, oblongae aut ovali-oblongae, nonnunquam erectae.

"Type-specimens—Chollerford (67), July /05, *leg.* H. N. Dixon, distributed this year throughout M. E. C.

"*Habitat.* On stones in and by streams, both in the lowlands and the highlands. W. I."

We notice also an extract from an article in the *Journal of Botany* as contributed to the Report (1916 p. 175) by Mr. W. E. Nicholson, and, although it is not checked off by Mr. Rhodes, we quote it as being of some interest to American bryologists:

"*Lepidozia sylvatica* Evans, may generally be separated from *L. setacea* by the smaller, more spreading leaves with smaller, less papillose cells, and, when perianths are present, by the more shortly ciliate bracts and mouth of the perianth. It is separable from *L. trichoclados* by having the bracts and the mouth oi the perianth more longly ciliate, in which respect it occupies an almost exactly intermediate position between *L. setacea* and *L. trichoclados*. *L. sylvatica*, in the absence of perianths or female bracts, is with difficulty separable from *L. trichoclados*, but the presumption would be in favour of the plant from sandy ground or sand rock being *L. sylvatica*, and one from peat being *L. trichoclados*. The tufts of *L. trichoclados* are also generally thicker.

"Involucral bracts (of *L. sylvatica*) much larger than leaves, innermost ovate, generally bifid from a fourth to a third into two shortly ciliate segments, cells generally longer and thinner-walled than in the leaves. Perianth narrowly ovoid or cylindrical, contracted at the mouth, ciliate, the cilia 1—4 (mostly 3) cells long."

According to the Report, Mr. P. G. M. Rhodes is the official Distributor of the Moss Exchange Club and some of the points which he has brought out in his report are applicable as well to conditions in America as in the British Isles. He notes that "most of the members now appear to have well-stocked herbaria containing all bryophytes likely to be met with in ordinary districts. It now remains to work out the form-cycles of the various species, for which purpose off-type specimens of even the commonest species should be of service. Mr. Wheldon's prediction of last year has already come true, and several common plants, which I accepted with some hesitation, have proved to be among the most interesting things in the distribution. It is regrettable that members living in the lowlands should so readily decide that their mosses are of 'no use to the Club' and I hope that next year they will overcome their bashfulness, and let us have their plants for comparison."

We gain from the report that there were gotten together for distribution, for 1916, a total of 382 species and varieties of mosses and hepatics,—altogether a total of 2,084 packets. The organization, which has a membership of forty-four, is to be congratulated upon its success and it is to be hoped that nothing will prevent a successful continuance of the work.

The Secretary of the Club, Mr. Wm. Ingham, notes in the report that in order to obviate the difficulty of having two systems of naming Sphagna, Mr. Wheldon has undertaken to draw up a new Sphagnum Catalogue based upon Warnstorf's monumental work, *Sphagnologia Universalis*, and, to make the catalogue more interesting and useful, there will be given short descriptions of the difficult species, varieties, and forms, such as those in the Subsecunda group.

CARNEGIE MUSEUM, PITTSBURGH, PA.

BORNEAN MOSSES (A REVIEW)

On a collection of Bornean Mosses made by the Rev. C. H. Binstead. By H. N. Dixon, M. A., F. L. S.

This is an extract from the Linnean Society's Journal, Botany, Vol. XLIII, July, 1916. It covers 32 pages and is accompanied by two plates. Of the 138 species and varieties reported, seventeen are new. In the introductory note the author indicates the interesting fact that in this, and doubtless in all tropical areas, the moss vegetation of the jungle is confined to the tops of high trees, where it has some measure of access to the sunlight. In these lofty canopies of the jungle occurs a moss flora almost entirely different from that which is accessible to the ordinary collector who proceeds on foot and collects on or near the ground. This jungle flora becomes accessible only when trees are felled for economic purposes. Mr. Binstead collected only on the ground, and his finds include only five species of thirty-one recorded for Mt. Kinabalu by Mitten and Wright.

The new species and varieties described in this paper are:

1. *Fissidens autoicus* Thér. et Dixon;
2. *Syrrhopodon trachyphyllus*, Mont., subsp. *albifrons* Thér. et Dixon, subsp. nov.;
3. *Syrrhopodon ledruanus* C. Muell., MS in litt. ad E. Levier; with a variety *involutus* Thér. et Dixon;
4. *Syrrhopodon patulifolius* Thér. et Dixon;
5. *Syrrhopodon binsteadii* Thér. et Dixon;
6. *Syrrhopodon tuberculosus* Thér. et Dixon;
7. *Calymperes subsalakense* Thér. et Dixon;
8. *Trichostomum sarawakense* Dixon;